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# The

# Agricultural Situation

A Brief Summary of



Economic Conditions

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## A YEAR OF SMALL OUTPUT BUT LARGER INCOME

Nature and man combined to shrink agricultural production this last year to the smallest volume in more than 40 years. The acreage of crops harvested was about 19 percent below the average of the previous 10 years. Then nature showed what she really could do by cutting the country's total output of crops 32 percent below average.

Corn, the mainstay of our animal industries, husked out a little over a billion bushels, the smallest crop in 60 years. Oats yielded only half a billion bushels, the smallest since 1881. The four feed grains—corn, oats, barley, and sorghums—together turned out half a crop—50,000,000 tons as compared with the average total of 100,000,000 tons.

In the case of cotton and tobacco, the cut was in acreage, not in yield per acre. The yield per acre of each was about 6 percent above the average. But the harvested acreage of cotton was down some 30 percent, and tobacco 23 percent below the average.

Crop production per capita of the country's population was by far the lowest this last season since 1866, the first year for which estimates are available. The trend of per capita production has been markedly downward ever since 1906; that year it was 15 percent above the 1910-14 average, while for 1934 it stands at 50 percent below the average.

Largely as a result of all this curtailment of supplies, the prices of 14 principal crops averaged 42 percent higher on December 1 than they were a year ago that date. The total value of the crops produced this last season was \$4,782,000,000 compared with \$4,114,000,000 the previous year. Some of the feed crops included therein are fed to livestock which has made little gain in price so far. Nevertheless, the total cash income of farmers for 1934, including Government payments, is estimated at a little over six billion dollars, a gain of a billion over 1933.

Looking ahead into 1935, it may be considered as probable that the crops will be larger than last season; that there will be a larger supply of feed and fewer animals to eat it; that prices of hogs and cattle will be higher, likewise horses; that dairymen will be in somewhat better position, likewise poultry producers; but that limitations of buying power in domestic and of trade in foreign markets will still handicap our farm business.

**NEW INDEX OF CROP PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1866 TO 1934**

The production of the principal crops in the United States in 1934 was the smallest since 1890, according to a new index of crop production which has recently been prepared from the revised estimates of crop production in the United States from 1866 to date. This index number replaces the index number of the mass of crop production which previously was published in the December Crops and Markets.

Both the unusually low yields and reduced acreage contributed to the marked decline in crop production in 1934. The composite yield of the principal field crops grown in 1934 was 19 percent below the 10-year average 1921-30. The estimated acreage in crops harvested was also nearly 19 percent below the 10-year average and was probably the lowest acreage harvested in more than 30 years. The reduction in acreage harvested was due in considerable part to the drought, which both reduced seedings and caused heavy abandonment of the planted area. It was also due in part to measures taken to control production.

The combined reduction in acreage and yield in 1934 resulted in crop production being only 66.5 percent of the 1910-14 average. In 1933, crop production was 89 percent of the 1910-14 average and for the period 1921-30, the index of crop production averaged 106.5. Former periods of low production have seldom lasted more than 2 years as yields tend to return to the nominal level.

The highest level of crop production ever reached in the United States occurred in 1920 when the index of production was 115.5 percent of the 1910-14 average. Crop production in the United States increased rapidly from 1866 to 1906, increased slightly from 1906 to 1920, and has since averaged slightly above the 1910-14 levels.

On a per capita basis, crop production this year is by far the lowest for any year since 1866 when estimates for crop production first began. Crop production per capita increased from 1866 to 1891 when the high point was reached. Since 1891, the increase in crop production has been less than the increase in population and per capita production has decreased. Since 1906, the trend in crop production per capita has been markedly downward, declining from 115 percent of the 1910-14 level in 1906 to 84 percent in 1929 and reaching the unusually low figure of 50 percent in 1934. The trend of crop production and population in the United States and crop production per capita are shown in Figure 1.

The index number of production is based upon recently revised estimates of the production of the principal crops. The revision of the estimates of acreage, yield, and production of these crops in the United States from 1866 to 1929 has provided estimates of production which are comparable with the current estimates and provides a measure of changes in crop production for the entire period for which production estimates are available. Several of the revised estimates have been published and the revised estimates for other crops are being prepared for publication. The revisions were made for 12 major crops—corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, flaxseed, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, cotton, tobacco, and tame hay. While the

trend of production of each of these crops from 1866 to date and the yearly fluctuations of production are important, it is also desirable to know what the general trend of production of all crops in the United States has been since 1866. This can best be shown by an index number combining production of the various crops according to their importance.

In order to combine crops such as corn, cotton, hay, and tobacco together into an index it is necessary to reduce the production of each of these commodities to a common unit. In computing the index number of crop production, this was done by weighting the production of each commodity by the average price per unit during the years

#### CROP PRODUCTION, POPULATION, AND PER CAPITA CROP PRODUCTION, 1866 TO DATE

INDEX NUMBERS (1910-1914=100)

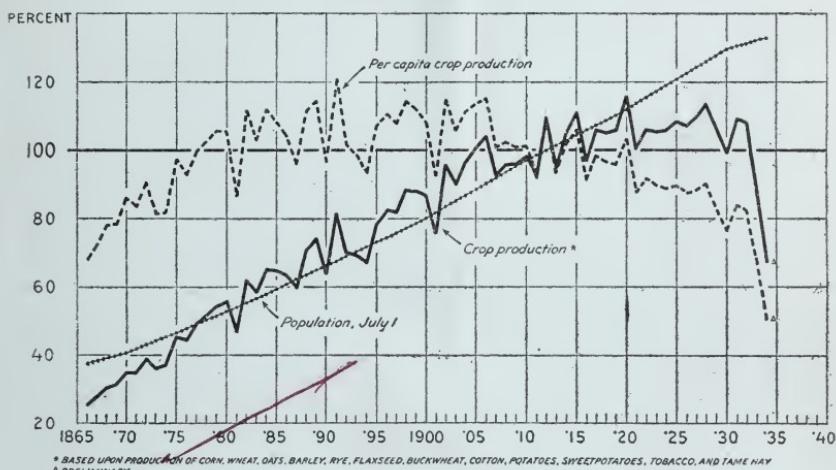


FIGURE I.—The trend of crop production was steadily upward from 1865 until 1928. The trend of per capita crop production began to decline in 1892.

1910-14. The average farm prices for the different commodities during this period were as follows:

Wheat	cents per bushel	88.4	Flaxseed	cents per bushel	161.7
Corn	do	64.4	Potatoes	do	69.0
Oats	do	40.2	Sweetpotatoes	do	85.0
Barley	do	60.6	Cotton	cents per pound	11.0
Rye	do	73.9	Tame hay	per ton	\$11.90
Buckwheat	do	73.8	Tobacco	cents per pound	10.4

After the production of the different crops for each year had been multiplied by the average farm price in 1910-14 the total value of the 12 crops for each year was obtained. The average of the values for the years 1910-14 was then taken as equal to 100. Thus the index numbers which follow measure the level of production of these major crops for each year as a percent of their production in the years 1910-14.

## INDEX OF CROP PRODUCTION: 12 IMPORTANT CROPS, 1866-1934

[1910-14=100]

Year	Index	Year	Index
1866	25.5	1901	76.0
1867	28.0	1902	96.0
1868	30.5	1903	90.0
1869	31.5	1904	97.0
1870	35.0	1905	101.0
1871	35.0	1906	104.0
1872	39.0	1907	92.5
1873	36.0	1908	96.0
1874	37.0	1909	96.0
1875	45.5	1910	98.5
1876	44.5	1911	92.5
1877	49.0	1912	109.5
1878	51.5	1913	95.0
1879	54.5	1914	105.0
1880	56.0	1915	111.0
1881	47.0	1916	97.0
1882	62.0	1917	106.0
1883	58.5	1918	105.0
1884	65.0	1919	106.0
1885	64.5	1920	115.5
1886	63.5	1921	100.5
1887	60.0	1922	106.0
1888	71.0	1923	105.5
1889	74.5	1924	106.0
1890	64.0	1925	108.5
1891	81.5	1926	107.5
1892	70.5	1927	110.0
1893	69.5	1928	113.5
1894	67.0	1929	107.0
1895	78.5	1930	99.5
1896	82.0	1931	109.5
1897	82.0	1932	108.0
1898	88.5	1933	89.0
1899	88.0	1934	66.5
1900	86.5		

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**FROSTS STRENGTHEN PRODUCE MARKETS**

Freezing weather in the South in December cut off supplies of many winter vegetables and brought, suddenly, higher prices. The effect seemed likely to last until later sections began shipping. Beans,

peas, lettuce, tomatoes, eggplant, cucumbers, and strawberries advanced 25 to 100 percent. Shipments were still coming from southern Texas and the Southwest, although heavy rains interfered with harvesting in California. The first effect on northern produce was a moderate advance for cabbage, carrots, and celery. The position of potatoes and onions was not affected, but the higher cost of southern produce could hardly fail to shift some trade to northern vegetables from storage. Oranges and grapefruit advanced 10 percent or more, but apples barely held their own under continued liberal supplies from the Northwest. Cranberries advanced sharply in December and held the gains under light production and closely regulated supplies.

In general, it was a weather market subject to quick changes from rain, snow, or frosts suddenly affecting supply and quality and liable at any time to bring temporary winter price upswings. Frequent spells of cold weather have stimulated demand. Occasional buying for relief distribution helped the vegetable market in some producing sections for a while, but trade opinion was divided as to the final market effect of such distribution. Prospect of comparatively high-priced eggs, meats, and butter is viewed by some as likely to shift trade to low-priced vegetables. On the other hand, rising meat prices might limit demand for some vegetables used in combination.

#### CABBAGE SELLS BETTER

The price of beef seems not yet too high to have checked popularity of "boiled dinners." Cabbage sold better during the cold weather of last month and the price rose \$1 to \$5 per ton after the reported damage to the early southern crop. This was the season's first advance other than short-lived stimulation resulting from Federal relief purchases. Prices in northern producing sections still seemed rather low at \$8 or less per ton in bulk. City markets quoted \$10 to \$18. Texas shippers were getting \$25 and all southern cabbage advanced strongly the second half of the month. Even at the higher level, southern cabbage was much lower than a year ago and northern cabbage sold at one-fifth of last season's prices. Despite the 17 percent reduction in three early Southern States, their acreage is still second largest on record for the group and one-third above the 5-year average.

#### POTATO MARKET QUIET

The dull, rather lifeless potato situation was not strengthened much after the damage in southern Florida. The freeze affected only a few hundred car lots, the main Florida crop being still underground or not yet planted. Florida red potatoes have been selling at \$2.50 a bushel in northern markets. Northern potato shipments have been limited chiefly by low prices and have lagged behind the average production enough to indicate need of steady car-lot activity to clear out the holdings. If the southern crop turns out light or delayed, the market prospect for the late shipping Northern States will improve. Prices are about the same as they were a month ago. Growers sell bulk stock near 15 to 20 cents a bushel in leading eastern and midwestern shipping sections and around 35 cents in the western baking potato region. Many growers are getting higher prices on small lots in local markets, but at best the moderate crop

seems to be selling at about two-thirds pre-war levels. Growers hold most of the remaining stocks and sell grudgingly at such prices. Some are feeding potatoes to livestock, which action various State authorities advise growers to take when potatoes are cheap and corn scarce and high. Possibilities of further damage to southern plantings or the blocking of motor roads by snow bring a gleam of hope to the market future. Meanwhile, shipments continue in moderate volume, but are hardly large enough at the present rate to move the main crop, which is 20 percent larger this season. Shipments to date are 5 percent less than a year ago. The increased planting in the Florida and Gulf Coast region is expected to bring strong competition in the spring. City prices for the ordinary varieties in sacks range from 75 cents to \$1.25 per 100 pounds and western baking potatoes sell at \$1.50 to \$2. Dealers express some hope of better market conditions in mid-winter, but the tone is not especially confident because of disappointing market action during the last three seasons of light to moderate production.

Sweetpotatoes are a little higher in the East this season and a little lower in the Middle West. Market action has been better than for white potatoes.

Onions show the same dull, slightly uneven market course reported for potatoes. Producing sections quote good stock at 85 cents to \$1 per 50 pounds, 5 to 10 cents lower in the Middle West than in the East. Holdings in producing sections appear to be heavier than they were last year, but current prices are about 10 cents less. The much lighter holdings reported in New York City this year suggest that dealers have not been providing for future needs. Increasing attention will be attracted to the condition of the coming crop in the South. City market prices ranged through December mostly 80 cents to \$1.20 per 50 pounds.

Spinach advanced sharply in mid-December, but sagged back on the discovery that the Virginia crop came through the cold snap in fairly good condition.

#### APPLE SHIPMENTS DECREASING

Car-lot apple shipments show the gradual decrease expected during winter months, but the total near the end of the year was about 8 percent larger than last year to date, owing to active western shipments early in the fall months. Market production was about the same this year and 22 percent less than average, but farm value is about one-fourth more. Annual car-lot shipments have shown almost continuous downward trend since 1928, decreasing from over 120,000 carloads in that year to 65,000 in 1933 and probably not much more this year. Light crops, motor trucks, and limited demand in recent years help to account for the reductions, and not so many new orchards are coming to the bearing age.

The usual apple market positions are reversed when best grade northwestern Winesaps sell near \$1 a box in the Pacific Northwest, while eastern and southern shipping points average about \$1.30 a bushel for standard varieties and packs. Northwestern apple markets are hampered by fairly large production, irregular keeping quality, heavy packing and marketing costs, and many difficulties in competing in foreign markets. Better position may develop during the last half of the season after the bulk of Canadian production has

been shipped out. The eastern crop is too small to need any great export outlet and the main drawback is the competition of oranges, which have sometimes been selling almost as low as apples. English apple markets showed the upward trend usual just before Christmas. Southern Yorks sold there mostly between \$4.50 and \$7 per barrel, and Northwestern apples brought \$2.50 to \$3 a box. Domestic apple markets were a bit dull and draggy the first half of December and average prices dropped a few cents a bushel in New York but recovered toward the end of the month. Most sales of good fruit in eastern and midwestern markets were still within a range of \$1.25 to \$1.75 a bushel, poor lots selling lower and best fruit of a few varieties reaching \$2. Prices have averaged a little higher in Chicago than in New York. The one-fifth larger proportion of cold-storage apple holdings this season tends to extend the market season.

Cranberries were the strong feature of the northern fruit market. They were selling at \$3 to \$4 a quarter barrel in early November, but advanced \$1.50 during the month and held the gains very well through December. Since the main season is over by the end of the year, it seems that nothing is needed but further careful marketing of the season's light stocks on hand. The crop and car-lot shipments to date are about one-third less this season.

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#### MORE WINTER WHEAT AND RYE SOWN

The acreage of winter wheat seeded in the fall of 1934 for harvest in 1935 is estimated at 44,306,000 acres by the Crop Reporting Board. This is 5.9 percent more than the revised estimate of acreage seeded in the fall of 1933 of 41,850,000 acres, and 3.8 percent more than the revised estimate of acreage seeded in the fall of 1932 of 42,669,000 acres. An increase of about 6 percent over the 1933 seedings is shown in the important winter wheat States of the Great Plains area.

In the 1934 drought area, where forage and pasture were severely reduced by drought in 1934, some of the increase in fall seeding is probably attributable to seeding for fall and winter pasture. In some of the States in which both winter and spring wheat are seeded in the same general areas, there appears to be a tendency to expand winter wheat acreage, which, if carried through the winter, would lead to a reduction in spring wheat seedings in the spring of 1935.

The condition of winter wheat on December 1 was reported at 77.8 percent of normal compared with a condition of 74.3 percent on the same date in 1933 and the 10-year (1923-32) average December 1 condition of 82.4 percent. While conditions have been favorable east of the Mississippi River and in the more eastern part of the Great Plains States, dry soil conditions still continue in the western part of these States from Kansas to Texas.

The condition of the crop on December 1 indicates that abandonment of winter wheat will again be above average. Based upon past relationships, it appears that the abandonment of the 1934 seedings will be in the neighborhood of 18 percent. Abandonment of the 1933 seedings was 21.3 percent and the 10-year (1922-31) average abandonment is 12.2 percent.

A comparatively low yield per acre is also indicated by the condition and corollary weather studies which indicate a winter wheat production to be harvested in 1935 of about 475,000,000 bushels. The 1933 crop was 405,034,000 bushels, and the 5-year (1927-31) average production was 632,061,000 bushels.

The area of rye sown for all purposes in the fall of 1934 is estimated at 5,697,000 acres, which is an increase of 13.3 percent over the 5,027,000 acres sown in the fall of 1933. A marked expansion in seeded acreage occurred in the Corn Belt States except the Dakotas.

Ordinarily only about 60 percent of the seeded acreage of rye is harvested for grain, the remainder being utilized for hay, pasture, or turned under as a soil improvement crop. Much of the increased acreage seeded this fall was probably seeded for use as fall and early spring pasture.

The condition of rye on December 1 is reported at 80.4 percent of normal as compared with the very low condition of 69.9 percent on December 1, 1933, and the 10-year (1923-32) average of 84.9 percent.

#### DROUGHT REDUCED THE SHEEP

##### GOOD LAMB CROP AND A GOOD START

The 1934 lamb crop, estimated at 29,339,000 head, was about 1 percent larger than the 1933 crop, but was slightly smaller than the 1932 crop and considerably smaller than the record 1931 crop. The crop was larger this year than last because of the increase in the western sheep States, since the crop in the native-sheep States was about 2 percent smaller in 1934 than in 1933.

The lamb crop in the 13 western sheep States totaled 18,780,000 head this year, an increase of about 3 percent from that of 1933. The 1934 crop was larger in all of these States except Texas and South Dakota. Because of the unfavorable feed conditions in much of the principal sheep area in Texas during the winter and spring, and short periods of severe weather during and after lambing, the 1934 lamb crop in Texas was reduced materially, being about 1,000,000 head smaller than the crop of 1933. Exclusive of Texas, the lamb crop in the western sheep States was about 1,500,000 head larger than last year. The number of lambs docked per 100 ewes (the percentage lamb crop) was larger than in 1933 in all of the western sheep States except Texas and South Dakota and was equal to or above the 5-year (1929-33) average in all the States except the two named and New Mexico.

Breeding ewes in the Western States were in rather poor condition at the beginning of 1933-34 as a result of poor feed conditions during the fall. The winter was especially mild, however, and even though feed supplies were relatively short, sheep in most States came through the winter in fairly good condition. Weather during lambing, both early and late, was generally favorable and losses of lambs were relatively small except in Texas. Sheep losses in the winter and spring were also small considering the feed situation and were much smaller than the heavy losses in 1932-33.

##### THEN CAME THE DROUGHT

Because of the early spring, new range feed made a fairly good start in most of the western sheep States and up to the middle of May prospects for a good grazing season were generally promising.

Following that date throughout the summer, rainfall was much below normal and temperatures were excessive. As a result, the average condition of ranges in the Western States in the summer and fall months was the lowest in the 12 years in which range conditions have been reported. The average condition of sheep during the summer also was the lowest ever reported. Although recent rains have partially relieved the drought situation in some of the Western States, the winter feed situation in these States is very unfavorable.

#### GOVERNMENT RELIEF BUYING

In view of the serious feed situation, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration cooperated in the purchase of sheep (ewes over 1 year old) as a drought-relief measure in States most seriously affected. About 5,000,000 sheep will have been purchased in this way. Such purchases of ewes will make possible the holding back of larger numbers of ewe lambs for flock replacement, and thus will tend to reduce the supply of lambs marketed below what otherwise would have been necessary. Nevertheless, it is probable that the total seasonal market movement of western lambs will be large despite the ewe-buying program.

#### LIGHT COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

The commercial slaughter of sheep and lambs during the first 6 months of the present crop-marketing year, beginning May 1, was about 7 percent smaller than the corresponding period last year. Slaughter of sheep and lambs under Federal inspection in November totaled 1,368,000 head, including ewes slaughtered for Government account, or only 12,000 more than in November last year when no Government sheep were included. Slaughter for commercial use therefore was considerably smaller than that of a year earlier. Receipts of sheep and lambs at the seven principal markets for commercial account were about 23 percent smaller than in November last year and were 36 percent smaller than the 5-year average for the month.

#### LARGE PROPORTION OF LAMBS ON FEED IN CORN BELT

Although supplies of feed grains and hay in all the principal feeding States of the Corn Belt are very short, the movement of feeder lambs inspected through public markets into the Corn Belt was much larger from July 1 to the end of October than the total of the very small shipments during the same period in either 1933 or 1932. Shipments into the States west of the Missouri River were much smaller than last year, but there was a heavy movement into the States east of the Mississippi River and into Iowa and Minnesota.

The movement of feeder lambs from 12 stockyards markets in November was 34 percent smaller than that in November last year, the greatest relative reduction occurring during the first half of the month. The decrease from last year was greatest in the movement to Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, and Michigan. The movement to Kansas and Oklahoma was much larger than that of a year earlier.

The proportion of lambs on feed in the Corn Belt is much larger than that of last year and larger than average, and since fed lambs

from this area are marketed earlier than those fed in the Western States market supplies of lambs during the late winter and early spring are expected to be relatively small. A substantial advance in lamb prices during that period therefore is indicated.

#### PROBABLY FEWER LAMBS NEXT SEASON

In view of the liquidation of sheep occurring because of the drought and of the poor condition of sheep in many areas, it appears that sheep numbers by the end of 1934 have been reduced sharply in most of the western sheep States and in some of the native sheep States. Despite this probable reduction in numbers, the number of sheep and other livestock remaining in many areas in the Western States and in some areas of the Corn Belt will be large relative to the very short supplies of feed available.

Even with fairly favorable weather conditions next winter ewes in the Western States where feed is short will be in poor condition at both breeding and lambing seasons, and the 1935 lamb-crop percentage will be below average. The number of death losses will depend largely upon the severity of the winter, but even under favorable weather conditions such losses will be relatively large, thus further reducing sheep numbers. It is probable, therefore, that the 1935 lamb crop will be the smallest in several years.

If 1934 had been a favorable year for feed production, it is highly probable that the number of stock sheep would have been increased during the year and the downward trend in sheep numbers which began in 1931 would have ended. Under present conditions this downward trend is likely to be continued for at least 1 year longer, and the low point in numbers will be much below what it would have been except for the drought.

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#### WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION LITTLE CHANGED IN YEAR

Preliminary estimates of wool production in several important producing countries point to a world wool production in 1934 little different from that of 1933, but smaller than the 5-year average of 1928-32. Small increases in the 1934 production are now indicated in Australia and New Zealand. A decrease is estimated for the United States and the Union of South Africa, with a still further decrease in prospect for both countries in 1935. Sheep numbers apparently were still at a relatively high level in most countries of the Southern Hemisphere at the beginning of 1934 except in South Africa, but reported smaller lamb crops in that country and in Australia in 1934 indicate a reduction in numbers by January 1, 1935.

Production of wool shorn or to be shorn in the United States in 1934 was estimated at 355,000,000 pounds, which is about 3 percent smaller than that of last year, but 1 percent larger than the 5-year (1929-33) average production. The decrease in wool production this year was largely the result of the sharp reduction in Texas. Production in most of the other western sheep States was larger than that of last year. Wool production in the native-sheep States in 1934 was a little larger than in 1933.

It is now estimated that the Australian wool clip for 1934 will be about 990,000,000 pounds, grease equivalent, compared with 950,000,000 pounds in 1933 and the record production of 1,062,-

000,000 pounds in 1932. Wool production for 1934 in the Union of South Africa was recently estimated at 245,000,000 pounds, compared with 274,000,000 pounds in 1933 and the record production of 316,000,000 pounds in 1932. The decrease this year is chiefly due to the sharp reduction in sheep numbers. A recent estimate of sheep numbers in New Zealand indicates that the wool clip in that country in 1934 probably will be slightly larger than in 1933. The 1933 clip was a record one, being officially estimated at 300,000,000 pounds. The increase over 1932 was the result of a heavier fleece per sheep, a record lamb crop, and a later slaughter season. Estimates of wool production in Argentina and Uruguay for 1934 are not yet available, but reports from Argentina indicate that weather and grazing conditions for the season have been relatively favorable for wool production, and that production will be about the same as it was last year. Stocks of wool at selling centers in the Southern Hemisphere at the end of September 1934 were somewhat larger than those of a year earlier, but they were smaller than the stocks 2 years earlier.

World wool production, including Russia and China, in 1933 was estimated at 3,457,000,000 pounds, which was a decrease of 5 percent compared with that of 1932 and 6 percent compared with the 1928-32 average. Average production for the 5 years 1921-25 was only 3,042,000,000 pounds. Production in Russia, where wool is mostly of the coarse carpet type, has been declining since 1929. World production, excluding Russia and China, in 1933 was estimated at 3,241,000,000 pounds, which was also 5 percent smaller than that of 1932. Over 60 percent of this latter total was produced in countries of the Southern Hemisphere, 13 percent in the United States, and most of the remainder in European countries.

On January 1, 1934, the number of stock sheep in the United States was slightly larger than at the beginning of 1933, but the total number of sheep and lambs was slightly smaller. In Australia, sheep numbers increased steadily from 1928 to 1933. Conditions were reported as unfavorable for the autumn and winter (March-June) lambing season, this year, and a decrease is expected in the 1934 lamb crop. Recent reports from New Zealand indicate that sheep numbers in that country increased somewhat during 1933, after having declined steadily during the preceding 3 years. Because of the prolonged and severe drought in South Africa during 1932 and 1933, sheep numbers there have declined considerably from the 1931 record number. A decrease of about 3 percent in the number of sheep in European countries during the last year is indicated by such estimates as are now available.

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#### SUPPLIES OF DAIRY PRODUCTS REDUCED

The year 1934 has witnessed an unusual number of developments with respect to dairy markets. The storage situation which on January 1 a year ago was one of extremely heavy surpluses, had changed by December 1 to a shortage for most products. Wholesale butter prices of less than 20 cents per pound at New York in early January averaged close to 25 cents during the season of flush production, and had gained another 5 cents at the close of 1934.

Production early in the year was on the whole considerably below the corresponding periods in 1933, but in the closing months of the

year showed substantial gains over 1933. The unprecedented drought during the summer months brought about serious damage in many of the principal dairy sections, and caused serious feed shortages and increased costs, making for such uncertainty as to probable production during the remainder of the winter and next spring, that satisfactory estimates are extremely difficult, if at all possible.

The year passes without any proposed plan of dairy production control being adopted, but with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration exerting an important influence on the whole dairy situation through purchases of dairy cattle and dairy products, licensing of a considerable number of fluid milk markets, and the control of evaporated and dry milk prices.

The excessive carry-over of butter in storage on January 1, 1934, was perhaps the most depressing influence at the beginning of the year. Storage stocks on that date amounted to 111,000,000 pounds, compared with but 22,000,000 pounds on January 1, 1933, and a January 1 five-year average of 47,500,000 pounds. The January 1, 1934, stocks were the largest on record for that date, exceeding by 30,000,000 pounds the previous high record reached on January 1, 1930. A statement issued in January to the effect that the January 1 stocks included approximately 40,000,000 pounds belonging to the Government and that this was being rapidly distributed through relief agencies to needy unemployed lent considerable support to markets at that time and subsequent reports showing Government-owned stocks served to reveal that current surpluses were being gradually reduced. At the close of the storage season on May 1, total stocks of butter in storage amounted to less than 12,000,000 pounds, which was only slightly above May 1, 1933, and actually below the May 1 five-year average.

The Government has continued to make purchases during the current season since May 1, the plan followed being to move this butter quickly into consumption, so that no Government-owned butter has been stored, except small lots for short periods. Reported storage stocks this season therefore have properly been considered as belonging to regular commercial interests.

Changes which have occurred in the production of manufactured dairy products in 1934 are not uniform for all products. Throughout all of the year up to September, butter production was consistently below corresponding periods of 1933. At the end of August the estimated shortage was over 90,000,000 pounds or 7.3 percent. Slight increases over 1933 in September and October reduced the percentage to 5.9 percent, although the net volume reduction for the first 10 months of the year remained about the same as 2 months earlier. During the current production season, May to October inclusive, butter production showed a decrease of 44,000,000 pounds, or 4.3 percent, below the May–October, inclusive, period last year.

American cheese, however, shows a gain during the same period of 17,000,000 pounds, or 5 percent, evaporated milk a gain of 38,000,000 pounds, or 3.7 percent, and condensed milk a gain of 8,000,000 pounds, or 6.5 percent. Cheese production was heavier in all months up to November except January, February, and June.

Evaporated milk production was lower than in 1933 the first half of the year, the decrease up to July 1 being 100,000,000 pounds, but increased by substantial amounts during the following months.

From the standpoint of production as a whole, it is of interest to note that some areas in the Middle West failed to come back after the drought period, while in others, particularly parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, late summer and fall production responded quickly to the more favorable conditions which developed. Various comments have appeared regarding the general shortage of feed, and some opinions have been expressed that the increased fall production may have seriously depleted winter feed reserves, but no information is readily available as to the probable effect of such a condition, if it actually occurred. The outlook report of this Bureau issued early in November pointed to the probable unfavorable position of dairying during the current feeding season on account of the shortage of hay and grain, and stated that a low level of milk production this winter is certain. Until a new corn crop can be harvested, feed shortages may be expected to result in rather light feedings, according to this report, which states further that since the number of milk cows is being rapidly reduced, milk production is likely to continue rather low until the summer of 1936, at least.

Butter prices in December not only reached the highest point for the year, but were the highest since December 1931. Throughout May, June, and July, New York 92 score butter wholesale prices averaged approximately 25 cents. In July, an upward swing began, due to the unfavorable production outlook at that time as well as to active buying, which included regular trading and covering of contracts for Federal and State relief distribution.

Toward the middle of August, the production outlook changed and butter prices declined to the June-July level, from which they gained steadily. During this latter period, the fact that the Government was making purchases lent a sustaining influence.

The trend of cheese prices has been quite irregular this year. In Wisconsin, the first primary market quotation on Twins in January was 9½ cents per pound, and a high for the year of 13½ cents was reached in March. After a course of ups and downs, the prevailing price on this style during December was 12½ cents. Wholesale prices in distributing markets were slightly higher than this, but followed somewhat the same general trend.

Prices paid for milk by condenseries varied somewhat with butter market changes, while wholesale selling prices of evaporated milk, which are fixed within a range by the marketing agreement, held generally unchanged throughout the year. Milk dealers' buying prices for milk to be used for city distribution averaged 25 to 30 cents per cwt. higher this year than in 1933, and retail prices from one-half to 1 cent per quart higher.

Stocks of dairy products on hand at the close of 1934 give promise of being less, as a whole, than a year ago. The latest available figures are for December 1, on which date butter in storage amounted to 81,023,000 pounds, compared with 138,166,000 pounds on December 1, 1933. Evaporated milk in manufacturers' hands on December 1 totaled 203,202,000 pounds, compared with 225,040,000 pounds a year earlier. American cheese in storage totaled 95,780,000 pounds, which was a surplus of 10 million pounds over December 1 last year.

One of the most strengthening influences in the dairy market situation this year has been the relatively heavy trade output or movement of dairy products into apparent consumption. For the first 10

months of 1934 the following are estimated increases over the corresponding period of 1933: Butter, 3.4 percent; cheese, 5.9 percent; condensed milk, 5.3 percent; evaporated milk, 6.4 percent, a net gain on a milk equivalent basis of 4 percent.

L. M. DAVIS,  
*Division of Dairy & Poultry Products.*

### SUMMARY OF DAIRY STATISTICS

[Millions of pounds; 000,000 omitted]

#### PRODUCTION

Product	November			January to November, inclusive		
	1934	1933	Per- cent change	1934	1933	Per- cent change
Creamery butter-----	111	115	-4.0	1,551	1,646	-5.3
Cheese-----	36	31	+15.3	529	510	+3.6
Condensed milk-----	16	15	+7.7	209	195	+7.1
Evaporated milk <sup>1</sup> -----	103	74	+40.5	1,627	1,632	-0.3
Total milk equivalent-----	2,945	2,925	+0.7	41,898	43,692	-4.1

#### APPARENT CONSUMPTION

[Including production, changes in stocks, and net imports or exports]

Creamery butter-----	141	137	+2.5	1,581	1,530	+3.3
Cheese-----	50	47	+7.4	554	522	+6.0
Condensed milk-----	18	18	+0.2	200	191	+4.9
Evaporated milk <sup>1</sup> -----	113	81	+38.9	1,599	1,478	+8.2
Total milk equivalent-----	3,746	3,570	+4.9	42,699	41,028	+4.1

<sup>1</sup> Case goods only.

#### POULTRY MEN HANDICAPPED BY HIGH FEED PRICES

The egg and poultry industry during the last year has been subjected to more than the usual number of conflicting influences. Weather conditions have been exceptionally variable, at one time stimulating production much above the normal seasonal rate, and then again, checking it sharply through a widespread and extended drought. Such changes have served to interfere with normal seasonal developments in the trend of supplies, which in turn has been reflected in considerable market instability.

Other factors, too, have played an important part in creating uncertain conditions, particularly the rapid improvement in business that came during the early part of the year and to some extent caused a bidding up of egg prices during the season of flush production when it looked as though the general price trend of all commodities was headed definitely upward. This period of strength did not last long, for with a greater-than-normal seasonal recession in business activities during the summer months, egg prices began to ease off as the general situation became less promising.

Considerable promise of higher prices in late summer and early fall as compared with the same period in 1933 came as the result of the intense drought in many of the States of the Middle West, which produce large quantities of eggs for the principal consuming markets. Egg production throughout this general area was not only curtailed by high temperatures and the absence of rain, but the accompanying damage to feed crops forced many farmers to dispose of a large part of both their old and young stock. As hatchings this year quite generally were smaller than last year the number of layers in farm flocks throughout that section this fall has been smaller than a year earlier. Reduction in number of layers, combined with the other factors previously noted, led to a small supply of fresh eggs in the late summer and early fall months and an advance in prices greater than the usual seasonal advance. This created an opportunity for owners of storage eggs, stocks of which were quite large, to move them into consumption at a price above that at which they were stored, whereas a short time earlier it seemed that a loss might have to be accepted.

Following the middle of October, production conditions again turned favorable and remained so during November and most of December. Temperate weather throughout this period tended to offset to some extent the shortage in feed supplies and to bring pullets into production at a somewhat earlier date than usual, and to encourage also a greater-than-usual seasonal increase in fresh egg production. This increase in fresh egg supplies, particularly from the East and West Coast sections, combined with a lagging demand which in part was due to a generally high level of retail prices during the preceding months, caused a sharp break in egg prices in late November. This recession carried well into the middle of December before attracting any measurable degree of support in the way of an expansion in current consumption.

Except for a short period early in the year and again in late November and December, egg prices have ranged consistently above those of corresponding dates in both 1933 and 1932. During the season of flush production, prices averaged several cents higher than during the preceding season, as the psychology of rising prices of all commodities stimulated the demand for eggs to be stored, as well as for those to be broken out and frozen. In late summer when it looked as though the combined stocks of shell and frozen eggs, amounting to a total of 12,434,000 cases on the basis of a case-egg equivalent, might prove too large to hold the relatively high price level of preceding months, the sharp drop in fresh egg production as a result of the drought improved the position of the sellers through greatly lessened receipts at principal terminal points.

An accompanying result of the drought, and one which has proved quite unfavorable for poultry producers in general and particularly those in the commercial areas, was the great damage suffered by grain crops. This has meant much higher feed costs for egg production, and has fully offset any benefits that might have been derived from the higher egg prices which prevailed until within recent weeks.

Looking forward to 1935, developments for the first month or so may not appear to be particularly encouraging at the present moment, but such a situation, if it does occur, should prove to be only temporary. Based upon the number of layers now in farm flocks, egg production during 1935 should be smaller than in 1934. Some improvement in

demand is likewise expected. These two factors together should be sufficient to raise egg prices to the point of a more normal relation with feed costs.

The poultry markets were generally steady to strong during the first half of the year, at prices 2 to 3 cents higher than a year earlier. Some weakness developed in late summer when farmers throughout the Middle West sold off large numbers because of the drought and the serious damage to feed crops that resulted in some sections. A large part of the stock sold during this period, however, was stored, so that the markets were not depressed unduly by an effort to sell larger quantities than could be easily absorbed at that time of the year. This led to rather heavy stocks of poultry in storage toward the close of the year, but the smaller number of poultry now on farms is expected to offset this later through smaller marketings of either live or fresh-killed stock.

Returns to producers from turkeys at both Thanksgiving and Christmas were much more satisfactory this year than a year earlier. Prices for these markets ranged from 4 to 6 cents higher than in 1933. There was a considerable amount of stock carried over from the Thanksgiving market, but a large part of this was worked into consumption during early December. Supplies at Christmass were much smaller than at Thanksgiving this year or Christmas a year ago.

B. H. BENNETT,  
*Division of Dairy & Poultry Products.*

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#### COST OF LONG-TERM FARM CREDIT

Interest rates declined to still lower levels during October and November, as yields on Federal land bank bonds averaged 3.15 percent for November as compared with a yield of 4.51 percent on 60 high grade bonds.

New loans of the Federal intermediate credit banks totaled \$16,000,000 in November for regional credit corporations and production credit associations as compared with \$23,000,000 to all other agencies. Local production associations made \$10,000,000 in new loans and regional agricultural credit associations extended \$8,000,000.

The outstanding farm loans of life insurance companies declined \$22,000,000 in October, and loans held by the joint-stock land banks declined \$35,000,000, or 70 percent between June and September. Loans by the Federal land banks in October increased \$37,000,000 and land bank commissioners' loans increased \$35,000,000. Total declines of 39 life insurance companies ended October for a 5-year period were \$578,000,000, or 38 percent below the amount held at the close of 1929. Loans of the Federal land banks during the same period had increased \$631,000,000 and land bank commissioners' loans totaled \$552,000,000 from the date of the first appearance of this type of credit in 1933.

DAVID L. WICKENS,  
*Division of Agricultural Finance.*

## INTEREST AND DISCOUNT RATES, AND BOND YIELDS

[Percentages]

Year and month	12 Federal land banks		60 high-grade bond yields	12 Federal intermediate credit banks' rates		Commercial paper rates (4- to 6-month average)	Federal reserve bank (New York) discount rate
	Rates to borrowers	Bond yields		On loans	On discounts		
1917-----	5.05	4.33	4.80	-----	-----	4.74	4 -4½
1920-----	5.50	5.14	5.88	-----	-----	7.46	4¾-7
1923-----	5.50	4.39	4.98	5.50	5.50	5.01	4 -4½
1929-----	5.32	4.78	4.70	5.56	5.61	5.84	4½-6
1930-----	5.63	4.70	4.52	4.53	4.54	3.58	2½-4½
1931-----	5.63	5.34	4.70	4.08	4.08	2.63	1½-3½
1932-----	5.58	5.56	5.85	3.25	3.25	1.50	2½
1933—January	5.58	5.30	5.59	3.17	3.17	1.38	2½
June	5.58	5.54	5.37	3.10	3.10	1.75	3 -2½
December	5.00	5.81	5.63	2.96	2.96	1.38	2
1934—January	5.00	5.08	5.25	2.98	2.98	1.38	2
February	5.00	4.76	4.90	3.00	3.00	1.38	1½
March	5.00	4.51	4.74	2.74	2.74	1.12	1½
April	5.00	3.03	4.61	2.50	2.50	1.12	1½
May	5.00	2.88	4.56	2.26	2.26	1.00	1½
June	5.00	2.76	4.47	2.00	2.00	.88	1½
July	5.00	3.08	4.45	2.00	2.00	.88	1½
August	5.00	3.88	4.55	2.00	2.00	.88	1½
September	5.00	4.32	4.63	2.00	2.00	.88	1½
October	5.00	3.93	4.51	2.00	2.00	.88	1½
November		3.15	-----	-----	-----	.88	1½

AGRICULTURAL LOANS OUTSTANDING: BY LENDING AGENCY<sup>1</sup>

[Millions of dollars]

End of year or month	Farm mortgage loans to farmers by—					Federal intermediate credit bank loans to—		Production credit associations	Regional agricultural credit corporations	Emergency crop loans
	39 life-insurance companies	Member banks	Federal land banks	Land bank commissioners	Joint-stock land banks <sup>2</sup>	Regional and production credit <sup>3</sup>	All other institutions <sup>4</sup>			
1929	1,579	388	1,198	—	627	—	—	—	—	3
1930	1,543	387	1,188	—	591	—	—	—	—	5
1931	1,503	359	1,163	—	537	—	—	—	—	53
1932	1,402	356	1,117	—	459	—	—	—	24	90
1933	1,234	318	1,214	70.7	392	73	76	0.03	145	90
1934:										
Mar.	1,164	298	1,458	237.9	349	86	71	4.4	145	68
June	1,101	288	1,631	378.5	320	127	71	38.5	138	91
Sept.	1,023	—	1,792	516.3	285	118	73	60.9	107	91
Oct.	1,001	266	1,829	551.9	—	105	83	58.1	97	83
Nov.	—	—	1,866	587.3	—	101	88	58.3	91	78

## NEW AGRICULTURAL LOANS, DISCOUNTS, AND INVESTMENTS

[Thousands of dollars]

Year and month	Federal land banks	Land bank commissioners' loans to farmers	Federal intermediate credit bank loans to—		Regional agricultural credit corporations	Production credit associations	Emergency crop loans	Agricultural Marketing Act revolving fund	Banks for cooperatives, including central banks	
			Regional and production credit <sup>1</sup>	All other institutions <sup>2</sup>						
1933	151,634	70,812	107,967	171,695	221,397	—	27	59,396	46,711	27,144
1934										
Jan.	77,843	49,795	12,886	14,155	21,061	134	—	253	786	
Feb.	86,179	54,120	11,570	7,102	17,540	515	—	259	1,440	
Mar.	89,346	63,838	22,141	10,052	16,993	3,766	611	271	1,323	
Apr.	25,362	21,271	25,952	12,054	12,373	10,110	18,118	67	1,594	
May	68,078	53,203	28,072	13,826	10,693	14,112	8,765	360	2,651	
June	86,109	67,770	19,582	14,862	8,192	11,296	1,083	1,289	1,878	
July	65,056	51,956	18,852	12,338	6,752	13,022	2,272	2,302	13,682	
Aug.	60,261	48,619	17,390	11,257	7,685	12,402	2,458	247	4,049	
Sept.	48,260	39,208	16,830	11,542	5,676	11,115	2,323	516	1,517	
Oct.	43,396	36,371	14,586	30,144	7,864	11,130	1,015	3,606	3,719	
Nov.	44,044	36,348	16,012	23,157	8,219	10,360	101	271	3,102	

<sup>1</sup> Data for life-insurance companies from Association of Life Insurance Presidents; data for member banks from Federal Reserve Board; other data from Farm Credit Administration.<sup>2</sup> Includes loans outstanding of joint-stock land banks in receivership.<sup>3</sup> Regional agricultural credit corporations and production credit associations. Some of the loans made by the regional agricultural credit corporations and all of the loans made by the production credit associations are rediscounted with the Federal intermediate credit banks. The amounts in this column are thus included in the columns headed "Production Credit Associations" and "Regional Agricultural Credit Corporations."<sup>4</sup> Licensed banks only.<sup>5</sup> Includes agricultural credit associations, livestock loan companies, and commercial banks.

## PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS

Estimates of average prices received by producers at local farm markets based on reports to the division of crop and livestock estimates of this Bureau. Average of reports covering the United States weighted according to relative importance of district and State.

Product	5-year average, August 1909-July 1914	De-cem-ber aver-age, 1910-14	De-cem-ber 1933	No-vem-ber 1934	De-cem-ber 1934	Parity price, De-cem-ber 1934
Cotton, per pound--cents	12.4	10.7	9.6	12.3	12.4	15.6
Corn, per bushel--do--	64.2	58.7	42.0	75.7	85.3	80.9
Wheat, per bushel--do--	88.4	87.2	67.3	88.1	90.6	111.4
Hay, per ton--dollars	11.87	12.05	7.69	13.58	13.86	14.96
Potatoes, per bushel--cents	69.7	61.1	69.4	45.9	45.4	87.8
Oats, per bushel--do--	39.9	38.9	31.4	51.1	53.9	50.3
Beef cattle, per 100 pounds dollars	5.21	52.2	3.12	3.81	3.88	6.56
Hogs, per 100 pounds--do--	7.22	6.72	2.92	5.04	5.15	9.10
Chickens, per pound--cents	11.4	10.6	8.6	11.7	11.7	14.4
Eggs, per dozen--do--	21.5	30.4	21.6	28.6	27.0	<sup>1</sup> 41.0
Butter, per pound--do--	25.5	28.4	21.0	25.9	26.5	32.1
Butterfat, per pound--do--	26.3	29.7	18.0	27.2	28.2	33.1
Wool, per pound--do--	17.8	17.3	24.2	19.2	18.5	22.2
Veal calves, per 100 pounds dollars	6.75	6.92	4.20	4.97	4.88	8.50
Lambs, per 100 pounds--do--	5.87	5.68	4.92	4.84	5.01	7.40
Horses, each--do--	142.00	135.00	70.00	79.00	79.00	179.00

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted for seasonality.

## COLD-STORAGE SITUATION

[Dec. 1 holdings, shows nearest millions; i. e., 000,000 omitted]

Commodity	5-year average, 1929-33	Year ago	Month ago	Decem-ber 1934
Apples, total barrels	<sup>1</sup> 9,965	<sup>1</sup> 8,376	<sup>1</sup> 10,408	<sup>1</sup> 10,332
Frozen and preserved fruits--pounds	74	62	70	68
40-percent cream--40-quart cans		<sup>1</sup> 200	<sup>1</sup> 133	<sup>1</sup> 91
Creamery butter--pounds	83	138	111	81
American cheese--do--	73	85	103	96
Frozen eggs--do--	75	72	89	76
Shell eggs--cases	<sup>1</sup> 2,814	<sup>1</sup> 2,641	<sup>1</sup> 4,633	<sup>1</sup> 2,380
Total poultry--pounds	93	91	73	106
Total beef--do--	63	70	108	128
Total pork--do--	446	529	505	570
Lard--do--	56	116	106	104
Lamb and mutton, frozen--do--	4	3	3	5
Total meats--do--	571	657	723	815

<sup>1</sup> 3 ciphers omitted.

## GENERAL TREND OF PRICES AND WAGES

[1910-14=100]

Year and month	Whole- sale prices of all com- modities <sup>1</sup>	Indus- trial wages <sup>2</sup>	Prices paid by farmers for com- modities used in— <sup>3</sup>			Farm wages	Taxes <sup>4</sup>
			Living	Produc- tion	Living- produc- tion		
1910-----	103	-----	98	98	98	97	-----
1911-----	95	-----	100	103	101	97	-----
1912-----	101	-----	101	98	100	101	-----
1913-----	102	-----	100	102	101	104	100
1914-----	99	-----	102	99	100	101	101
1915-----	102	101	107	104	105	102	110
1916-----	125	114	124	124	124	112	116
1917-----	172	129	147	151	149	140	129
1918-----	192	160	177	174	176	176	137
1919-----	202	185	210	192	202	206	172
1920-----	225	222	222	174	201	239	209
1921-----	142	203	161	141	152	150	223
1922-----	141	197	156	139	149	146	224
1923-----	147	214	160	141	152	166	228
1924-----	143	218	159	143	152	166	228
1925-----	151	223	164	147	157	168	232
1926-----	146	229	162	146	155	171	232
1927-----	139	231	159	145	153	170	238
1928-----	141	232	160	148	155	169	239
1929-----	139	236	158	147	153	170	241
1930-----	126	226	148	140	145	152	238
1931-----	107	207	126	122	124	116	218
1932-----	95	178	108	107	107	86	189
1933-----	96	171	109	108	109	80	-----
1933							
July-----	101	176	-----	-----	107	78	-----
August-----	102	176	-----	-----	112	-----	-----
September-----	103	179	117	114	116	-----	-----
October-----	104	177	-----	-----	116	86	-----
November-----	104	175	-----	-----	116	-----	-----
December-----	103	176	117	114	116	-----	-----
1934							
January-----	105	179	-----	-----	117	81	-----
February-----	107	179	-----	-----	119	-----	-----
March-----	108	184	121	119	120	-----	-----
April-----	107	183	-----	-----	120	88	-----
May-----	108	183	-----	-----	121	-----	-----
June-----	109	182	122	121	121	-----	-----
July-----	109	181	-----	-----	122	90	-----
August-----	112	184	-----	-----	125	-----	-----
September-----	113	182	123	129	126	-----	-----
October-----	112	181	-----	-----	126	93	-----
November-----	112	180	-----	-----	126	-----	-----

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics. Index obtained by dividing the new series 1926=100, by its pre-war average 1910-14, 65.5.<sup>2</sup> Average weekly earnings, New York State factories. June 1914=100.<sup>3</sup> These indexes are based on retail prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living and production reported quarterly for March, June, September, and December. The indexes for other months are straight interpolations between the successive quarterly indexes.<sup>4</sup> Index of farm real-estate taxes, per acre, 1913=100.

## GENERAL TREND OF PRICES AND PURCHASING POWER

[August 1909-July 1914=100]

Year and month	Index numbers of farm prices								Prices paid by farmers for commodities bought	Ratio of prices received to prices paid
	Grains	Cotton and cottonseed	Fruits	Truck crops <sup>1</sup>	Meat animals	Dairy products	Chickens and eggs	All groups		
1910-----	104	113	101	-----	103	99	104	102	98	104
1911-----	96	101	102	-----	87	95	91	95	101	94
1912-----	106	87	94	-----	95	102	100	100	100	100
1913-----	92	97	107	-----	108	105	101	101	101	100
1914-----	102	85	91	-----	112	102	106	101	100	101
1915-----	120	77	82	-----	104	103	101	98	105	93
1916-----	126	119	100	-----	120	109	116	118	124	95
1917-----	217	187	118	-----	174	135	155	175	149	117
1918-----	227	245	172	-----	203	163	186	202	176	115
1919-----	233	247	178	-----	207	186	209	213	202	105
1920-----	232	248	191	-----	174	198	223	211	201	105
1921-----	112	101	157	-----	109	156	162	125	152	82
1922-----	106	156	174	-----	114	143	141	132	149	89
1923-----	113	216	137	-----	107	159	146	142	152	93
1924-----	129	212	125	150	110	149	149	143	152	94
1925-----	157	177	172	153	140	153	163	156	157	99
1926-----	131	122	138	143	147	152	159	145	155	94
1927-----	128	128	144	121	140	155	144	139	153	91
1928-----	130	152	176	159	151	158	153	149	155	96
1929-----	120	144	141	149	156	157	162	146	153	95
1930-----	100	102	162	140	133	137	129	126	145	87
1931-----	63	63	98	117	92	108	100	87	124	70
1932-----	44	47	82	102	63	83	82	65	107	61
1933-----	62	64	74	104	60	82	75	70	109	64
1933										
August-----	81	71	74	95	64	85	69	79	112	71
September-----	78	69	78	147	62	89	78	80	116	69
October-----	69	71	77	123	64	91	93	78	116	67
November-----	75	76	70	127	59	92	102	80	116	69
December-----	73	77	74	114	52	88	94	78	116	67
1934										
January-----	76	82	86	102	55	84	82	77	117	66
February-----	79	93	87	101	65	92	78	83	119	70
March-----	79	94	97	79	66	95	74	84	120	70
April-----	77	94	96	98	64	91	72	82	120	68
May-----	78	90	110	89	64	91	72	82	121	68
June-----	89	94	137	80	64	93	72	86	121	71
July-----	91	99	113	102	66	94	76	87	122	71
August-----	106	107	101	108	68	97	86	96	125	77
September-----	112	110	93	133	82	99	104	103	126	82
October-----	109	107	98	110	74	100	108	102	126	81
November-----	109	107	94	107	72	105	125	101	126	80
December-----	116	109	85	121	73	107	119	101	126	80

<sup>1</sup> The original "Index Numbers of Prices to Producers of Commercial Truck Crops for Shipment" (with 1924-29=100) were raised to the level of all other group indexes (with a pre-war base) in 1924-29 by multiplying by 146.

**CASH INCOME FROM THE SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS AND RENTAL  
AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS TO FARMERS<sup>1</sup>**
**CASH INCOME FROM SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS**

	Grains	Cotton and cotton-seed	Fruits and vegetables	All crops	Meat animals	Dairy products	Poultry and eggs	All livestock and products	Total crops and live-stock
	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars	Mil-lion dollars
1933									
October-----	49	147	80	353	91	87	29	211	564
November-----	43	117	52	285	93	81	42	227	512
December-----	37	76	52	207	78	82	39	203	410
1934									
January-----	37	51	67	217	97	79	29	208	425
February-----	40	45	56	188	87	75	30	196	384
March-----	37	39	77	186	88	89	40	220	406
April-----	24	36	79	163	86	86	40	217	380
May-----	29	23	97	173	99	103	41	249	422
June-----	44	20	78	164	94	105	34	246	410
July-----	100	22	68	219	93	102	28	244	463
August-----	120	30	63	279	92	101	28	229	508
September-----	77	110	63	341	111	95	30	242	583
October-----	55	145	75	375	121	94	34	255	630
November:									
1924-----	184	319	103	701	197	97	61	365	1,066
1925-----	146	281	121	641	202	116	66	393	1,034
1926-----	120	209	105	530	207	114	82	414	944
1927-----	117	275	97	589	195	118	76	399	988
1928-----	128	262	113	595	212	129	76	427	1,022
1929-----	78	232	93	495	202	131	84	426	921
1930-----	51	139	80	344	158	116	66	343	687
1931-----	47	104	54	255	99	97	54	252	507
1932-----	20	78	45	180	72	69	51	197	377
1933-----	43	117	52	285	93	81	42	227	512
1934-----	37	92	55	236	109	87	50	252	488

<sup>1</sup> Data for July 1933-June 1934 revised from those published in August.

**BENEFIT, RENTAL, AND DROUGHT-RELIEF PAYMENTS TO FARMERS  
NOT INCLUDED IN OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME**

	Cotton	Tobacco	Wheat	Hogs <sup>1</sup>	Corn-hog	Cattle <sup>2</sup>	Total <sup>3</sup>
	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
1933							
October-----	51	1		4			55
November-----	8		2	1			12
December-----	3		16				19
1934							
January-----	32		27				60
February-----	14		14				28
March-----	3		6				9
April-----	1	4	2				6
May-----	9	4	1		2		16
June-----	19	3	1		5	1	29
July-----	8	1	1		10	11	31
August-----	6	2	1		38	26	73
September-----	2		2		47	25	76
October-----	12		36		28	29	105
November-----	24	2	25		8	9	473

<sup>1</sup> Revised. For pigs purchased under emergency hog-reduction program.

<sup>2</sup> Purchased under drought-relief program.

<sup>3</sup> Total of all benefit, rental, and drought-relief payments made during month may not check exactly with sum of payments on individual program.

<sup>4</sup> Including \$5,000,000 for sheep purchased under drought-relief program.

## GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS RELATED TO AGRICULTURE

Production, consumption, and movements	November 1933	October 1934	November 1934	Month's trend
<i>Production</i>				
Pig iron, daily (thousand tons) -----	36	31	32	Increase.
Bituminous coal (million tons) -----	31	33	30	Decrease.
Steel ingots (thousand long tons) -----	1,521	1,462	1,589	Increase.
<i>Consumption</i>				
Cotton, by mills (thousand bales) -----	475	520	477	Decrease.
Unfilled orders, Steel Corporation shipments of finished steel products (thousand tons). -----	430	344	366	Increase.
Building contracts in 37 North-eastern States (million dollars). -----	162	135	112	Decrease.
Hogs slaughtered (thousands) -----	2,382	2,032	2,338	Increase.
Cattle and calves slaughtered (thousands). -----	993	1,711	1,356	Decrease.
Sheep and lambs slaughtered (thousands). -----	1,068	2,126	1,017	Do.
<i>Movements</i>				
Bank debits (outside New York City) (billion dollars). -----	12	14	13	Do.
Carloadings (thousands) -----	2,386	2,531	2,353	Do.
Mail-order sales (million dollars) -----	52	64	61	Do.
Employees, New York State factories (thousands). -----	333	356	351	Do.
Average price 25 industrial stocks (dollars). -----	134.22	135.32	141.62	Increase.
Interest rate (4-6 months' paper, New York) (percent). -----	1.25	.88	.88	Unchanged.
Retail food price index (Department of Labor). <sup>1</sup> -----	110	119	118	Decrease.
Wholesale price index (Department of Labor). <sup>1</sup> -----	101	112	112	Unchanged.

<sup>1</sup>1910-14 basis.

Data in the above table, excepting livestock slaughter and price indexes, are from the Survey of Current Business, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce.

## THE TREND OF EXPORT MOVEMENT

Compiled from the Department of Commerce reports by the foreign agricultural service division of this Bureau.

Year and month	Wheat, <sup>1</sup> including flour	Tobacco (leaf)	Bacon, <sup>2</sup> hams, and shoulders	Lard <sup>3</sup>	Apples (fresh)	Cotton, <sup>4</sup> running bales
Total:	1,000 bushels	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 bushels	1,000 bales
1920--	311, 601	467, 662	821, 922	612, 250	5, 393	6, 111
1921--	359, 021	515, 353	647, 680	868, 942	5, 809	6, 385
1922--	235, 307	430, 908	631, 452	766, 950	4, 945	6, 015
1923--	175, 190	474, 500	828, 890	1,035, 382	8, 876	5, 224
1924--	241, 454	546, 555	637, 980	944, 095	10, 261	6, 653
1925--	138, 784	468, 471	467, 459	688, 829	10, 043	8, 362
1926--	193, 971	478, 773	351, 591	698, 961	16, 170	8, 916
1927--	228, 576	506, 252	237, 720	681, 303	15, 534	9, 199
1928--	151, 976	575, 408	248, 278	759, 722	13, 635	8, 546
1929--	154, 348	555, 347	275, 118	829, 328	16, 856	7, 418
1930--	149, 154	560, 958	216, 953	642, 486	15, 850	6, 474
1931--	125, 686	503, 531	123, 246	568, 708	17, 785	6, 849
1932--	82, 118	387, 768	84, 175	546, 184	16, 919	8, 916
1933--	27, 512	420, 418	100, 169	579, 072	11, 029	8, 353
November:						
1920--	31, 209	26, 627	69, 129	57, 316	1, 475	681
1921--	19, 813	29, 236	32, 425	51, 854	600	630
1922--	17, 890	39, 787	51, 407	62, 321	1, 084	856
1923--	12, 503	49, 381	71, 947	74, 251	2, 066	762
1924--	35, 425	44, 312	35, 430	49, 120	2, 182	1, 289
1925--	8, 796	51, 141	31, 693	39, 979	1, 959	1, 196
1926--	20, 545	49, 136	22, 384	43, 488	5, 168	1, 475
1927--	27, 003	54, 407	13, 744	49, 636	2, 286	984
1928--	16, 195	76, 938	14, 568	67, 716	3, 455	1, 428
1929--	15, 155	71, 422	24, 219	83, 257	2, 147	1, 049
1930--	8, 701	56, 173	13, 800	42, 552	4, 492	907
1931--	13, 550	55, 938	8, 962	35, 205	3, 006	1, 071
1932--	5, 985	44, 531	7, 714	35, 897	2, 916	1, 012
1933--	1, 930	42, 566	10, 306	47, 563	1, 695	915
1934:						
January--	5, 548	25, 753	4, 965	51, 202	2, 556	739
February--	4, 039	27, 571	7, 012	36, 908	2, 166	628
March-----	4, 733	43, 024	7, 206	39, 493	1, 029	567
April-----	5, 482	39, 887	6, 280	39, 350	387	387
May-----	2, 725	30, 512	7, 702	66, 167	35	285
June-----	1, 415	27, 799	8, 137	41, 008	9	459
July-----	2, 168	17, 636	11, 572	33, 466	127	306
August----	3, 818	23, 620	8, 769	29, 358	201	268
September--	2, 190	50, 630	4, 902	31, 506	543	454
October--	1, 866	61, 606	5, 335	26, 870	634	616
November--	1, 936	45, 294	7, 559	19, 739	934	572

<sup>1</sup> Wheat flour is converted on a basis of 4.7 bushels of grain equal to 1 barrel of flour.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Cumberland and Wiltshire sides.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes neutral lard.

<sup>4</sup> Excludes linters.